EXHIBIT 3

SGR 2005 - SCIENTIFIC PAPER – MDCT, Routine Abdominal Pelvic

Effectiveness of Low Attenuation Oral Contrast Medium in Abdominal MDCT: Comparison with Positive Oral Contrast Media

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PURPOSE: To evaluate the effectiveness of low attenuation oral contrast (VoLumen®-barium sulfate 0.1%w/v, EZEM) when compared to routinely used positive oral contrast media (Readi-Cat® - barium sulfate 2.1%w/v, EZEM) using abdominal MDCT.

MATERIALS AND METHODS: Ninety patients referred for abdominal MDCT and without history of bowel disease were prospectively randomized to receive either 900ml of 2.1% or 0.1% barium sulfate suspension. Patient's gender, age, race, height, indication for the CT study and history of prior surgery were recorded. CT images were assessed for gastrointestinal distension and wall visualization for stomach, duodenum, jejunum and ileum, using a five points scale; anatomical identification of the dependent surface of the stomach, antral wall, duodenal sweep, jejunal folds, terminal ileum and ileocecal valve was assessed.

RESULTS: Low attenuation barium sulfate produced a significant improvement ($P < 0.01$) in distension and wall visualization of duodenum, jejunum, and ileum. No significant differences were demonstrated between the two contrast media for distention and wall visualization of stomach, as well as for anatomical identification of dependant surface of stomach, antral wall, duodenal sweep, jejunal folds, terminal ileum and ileocecal valve.

CONCLUSION: Low attenuation barium sulfate oral contrast effectively distends and depicts the normal wall of the gastrointestinal tract when using abdominal MDCT.